

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 12 were previously canceled. Claims 26-29 are presently canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Since claims 26-29 are canceled, therefore the rejection of these claims under 35 USC § 112 is now moot. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

1. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10, 13-25, and 30. Claim 27 is canceled, therefore the objection of claim 27 under 35 USC § 112 is now moot.

2. Drawings

The Office Action objects to the defect of Figure 3b. A corrected Figure 3b in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) replaces the previous Figure 3b submitted to obviate the objection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawing.

3. Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112

Claims 26-29 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as invention.

4. Rejection of claims 26, 28, and 29 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gambini (USP 6,371,304) in view of Rintala et al (USP 5,082,118).

Since claims 26, 28, and 29 are canceled, therefore, rejections to claims 26, 28, and 29 are now moot.

CONCLUSION


Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit this application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance; the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

One month extension of time is believed to be required. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this or any other communication, or credit any over payment, to Deposit Account No. 09-0525.

Respectfully submitted,

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